

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IOE-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07  
INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 OIC-02 L-03 SS-15  
NSC-05 PRS-01 /071 W  
-----181923Z 064733 /43

P R 181555Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5860  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 1317

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PLAB, ILO, CY  
SUBJECT: ILO - 63RD INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE (ILC)

REFS: (A) STATE 102699; (B) STATE 103404; (C) STATE 104945;  
(D) NICOSIA 783

1. IN RESPONSE REF A, AMBASSADOR DISCUSSED BROAD OUTLINES OF U.S. POLICY ON ILO AND CONCERN ABOUT FORTHCOMING ILO WITH GOC FOREIGN MINISTER CHRISTOPHIES ON MAY 18. FONMIN TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT GOC HOPES U.S. WILL REMAIN A MEMBER OF ILO. GOC IS IN AGREEMENT WITH U.S. POSITION THAT POLITICAL ISSUES SHOULD BE KEPT OUT OF ILC. GOC WILL MAINTAIN THIS POSITION WITH OTHER DELEGATIONS. CHRISTOPHIDES WILL MEET WITH LABOR MINISTER SPANOS IN VERY NEAR FUTURE TO COMPLETE DETAILED PREPARATION FOR GOC ACTIVITIES AT ILC. SPANOS WILL BE DEFACTO HEAD OF CYPRUS DELEGATION TO ILC. CHRISTOPHIDES SUGGESTS THAT U.S. DELEGATION BE IN TOUCH WITH SPANOS TO COORDINATE POSITION ON SPECIFIC ISSUES.

2. DCM HELD MORE DETAILED CONVERSATION WITH FONMIN DIRECTOR GENERAL PELAGHIAS, DRAWING ON TALKING POINTS IN REFTELS. PELAGHIAS CONFIRMED THAT GOC IS VERY MUCH CONFIDENTIAL

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AWARE OF U.S. CONCERNS ABOUT ILO AND CONCURS WITH U.S. POSITION THAT THE ORGANIZATION SHOULD FOCUS ON TECHNICAL ISSUES. HE DID ADVISE THAT GOC FEELS IT MUST RAISE THE QUESTION OF DIFFICULTIES WHICH GREEK CYPRIOT WORKERS ARE ENCOUNTERING IN NORTHERN CYPRUS, BUT EVEN IN THIS CASE THE GOC WILL DISCUSS THE PROBLEM IN COMMITTEE, NOT IN PLENARY, AND GOC STATEMENTS WILL BE "AS TACTFUL AS

POSSIBLE" WITH MINIMUM REFERENCE TO THE POLITICAL PROBLEMS OF CYPRUS.

3. IN ABSENCE FROM CYPRUS OF LABOR MINISTER, DCM ALSO CALLED ON ACTING HEAD OF LABOR MINISTRY AND DIRECTOR GENERAL MIKIS SPARSIS TO DISCUSS ILC. SPARSIS ALSO IS FULLY CONVERSANT WITH U.S. POSITIONS ON GENERAL POLICY AND INDIVIDUAL ISSUES. HE WILL BE GOVERNMENT DELEGATE AND CHAIRMAN OF CYPRUS DELEGATION TO CONFERENCE. HE CONFIRMED THAT LABOR MINISTER WILL ATTEND ILC. OTHER GOVERNMENT DELEGATE WILL BE LABOR MINISTRY SENIOR INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS OFFICER EFSTATHIOS CONSTANTANIDES; WORKER DELEGATE WILL BE ANDREAS ZIARTIDES, SECRETARY GENERAL OF PEO, THE COMMUNIST LABOR UNION (ZIARTIDES ALTERNATES THE ROLE OF WORKER DELEGATE IN ALTERNATE ILC'S WITH MICHAEL IOANNOU, SECRETARY GENERAL OF NON-COMMUNIST SEK FEDERATION; FOR 63RD ILC IOANNOU WILL SERVE AS AN ADVISOR TO DELEGATION). EMPLOYER DELEGATE WILL BE TAKIS CHRISTOPHIDES, ACTING DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE EMPLOYERS FEDERATION. HEAD OF CIVIL SERVICE UNION, GEORGE IACOUBOU, AND GOC GENEVA PERMREP TO THE UN, ANDREAS MAVROMMATIS, WILL ALSO SERVE AS ADVISORS TO THE DELEGATION.

4. SPARSIS HAS SERVED AS CHAIRMAN OF CYPRUS DELEGATION TO ILC'S FOR MANY YEARS. HE SHARES U.S. WORRY THAT ORGANIZATION IS LOSING ITS USEFULNESS BECAUSE OF INCREASING POLITICIZATION. HIS THEORY IS THAT THE INCREASE IN POLITICAL CONTENT OF ILC'S HAS OCCURRED WITH DECREASES IN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE OFFERED THROUGH ILO BY LARGE  
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NATIONS TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. HE POINTED OUT THAT CYPRUS HAS BEEN SUPPORTED IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SEVERAL VALUABLE INSTITUTIONS BY ILO, INCLUDING A PRODUCTIVITY CENTER, A HOTEL AND CATERING SCHOOL AND OTHER TRAINING FACILITIES. WHEN ASSISTANCE FOR THIS KIND OF PROJECT WAS BEING RECEIVED, CYPRUS DID NOT DARE TO RAISE POLITICAL QUESTIONS THAT WOULD CAUSE PROBLEMS FOR THE ORGANIZATION. WITH THE DECREASE IN ASSISTANCE, DEVELOPING COUNTRIES HAVE NOT FELT CONSTRAINED TO KEEP POLITICAL CONTENT OUT OF ILO DELIBERATIONS. SPARSIS REGRETTED THESE DEVELOPMENTS AND BELIEVED THAT MOST RESPONSIBLE COUNTRIES ARE NOW FOCUSING ON THE FACT THAT ILO COULD LOSE ITS MOST VALUABLE MEMBER IF MORE RESTRAINT IS NOT SHOWN.

5. SPARSIS CONFIRMED CHRISTOPHIDES' AND PELAGHIAS' INFORMATION ON GOC POSITION AND SAID HE WOULD MAKE STRONG PERSONAL EFFORT TO ENSURE THAT CYPRUS DELEGATION LOBBIES FOR ELIMINATION OF POLITICAL DIS-

CUSSION IN ILC. HE SAID THAT BOTH WORKER AND EMPLOYER  
DELEGATES WILL SUPPORT GOC POSITION.

6. ONE ITEM OF LOCAL INTEREST IS THAT THE PRESIDENT OF  
THE FEDERATION OF TURKISH CYPRIOT TRADE UNIONS  
(TURK-SEN), NECATI TASHKIN, WILL BE PRESENT IN GENEVA  
DURING ILC AND WILL MEET WITH SEK SECGEN MICHAEL IOANNOU  
AS AGREED DURING THEIR MEETING IN NICOSIA (REF D). THE  
TASHKIN-IOANNOU MEETING WILL BE PRESIDED OVER BY ICFTU  
SECGEN OTTO KERSTEN.  
CRAWFORD

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## Message Attributes

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